This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of changing values of a range of consecutive keys in an original B-tree having a plurality of keys stored therein, comprising:

excising the range of consecutive keys from the original B-tree, the original B-tree representing a file system, wherein renaming an element of the file system requires the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys, the excision of the range of consecutive keys converting the original B-tree into a trimmed tree;

balancing the trimmed tree;

storing the range of consecutive keys excised from the B-tree to form an extracted tree;

changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree to form a modified extracted tree;

~~and~~

inserting the modified extracted tree into the balanced trimmed tree to form a final B-tree; and

balancing the final B-tree,

wherein the original B-tree represents a hierarchical namespace of a file system of a computing device, and the range of consecutive keys belong to a directory of the file system such that the directory is represented as the B-tree, and wherein the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys is in connection with the directory being renamed, and

wherein each key in the original B-tree contains a pathname for a file or directory of the file system prior to the renaming of the directory.

2-6 (Canceled)

7. (Original)   A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of changing includes changing a prefix field of a root node of the extracted tree.

8. (Original)   A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of inserting the modified extracted tree into the trimmed tree involves a strict insertion.

9. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps for changing values of a range of consecutive keys in an original B-tree having a plurality of keys stored therein, comprising:

excising the range of consecutive keys from the original B-tree, the original B-tree representing a file system, wherein renaming an element of the file system requires the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys, the excision of the range of consecutive keys converting the original B-tree into a trimmed tree;

balancing the trimmed tree;

storing the range of consecutive keys excised from the B-tree to form an extracted tree;

changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree to form a modified extracted tree; ~~and~~

inserting the modified extracted tree into the balanced trimmed tree to form a final B-tree; and

balancing the final B-tree,

wherein the original B-tree represents a hierarchical namespace of a file system of a computing device, and the range of consecutive keys belong to a directory of the file system such that the directory is represented as the B-tree, and wherein the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys is in connection with the directory being renamed, and

wherein each key in the original B-tree contains a pathname for a file or directory of the file system prior to the renaming of the directory.

10-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in clam 9, wherein the step of changing includes changing a prefix field of a root node of the extracted tree.

16. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 9, wherein the step of inserting the modified extracted tree into the trimmed tree involves a strict insertion.

17. (Currently Amended)   A method of modifying a B-tree, wherein the B-tree represents a file system ~~of a computing device~~, wherein renaming an element of the file system requires the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys, <u>each key in the B-tree contains a pathname for a file or directory of the file system,</u> the method comprising:

excising keys of ~~the~~ <u>a</u> directory <u>of the file system</u> being renamed from the B-tree, <u>the directory being represented as the B-tree,</u> the excision of the keys of the directory converting the B-tree into a trimmed tree;

<u>balancing the trimmed tree;</u>

storing the keys of the directory excised from the B-tree in an extracted tree;

changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree to reflect a new name of the directory; ~~and~~

inserting the extracted tree with changed values of the keys into the <u>balanced</u> trimmed tree to form a final B-tree<u>; and</u>

<u>balancing the final B-tree</u>.

18-20 (Canceled)

21. (Original) A method as in claim 17, wherein the step of changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree includes changing a prefix field of a root node of the extracted tree.

22. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps for modifying a B-tree, wherein the B-tree represents a file system <u>of a computing device</u>, wherein renaming an element of the file system requires the changing of the values of the range of consecutive keys, <u>each key in the B-tree contains a pathname for a file or directory of the file system,</u> the method comprising:

excising keys of ~~the~~ <u>a</u> directory <u>of the file system</u> being renamed from the B-tree, <u>the directory being represented as the B-tree,</u> the excision of the keys of the directory converting the B-tree into a trimmed tree;

<u>balancing the trimmed tree;</u>

storing the keys of the directory excised from the B-tree in an extracted tree;

changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree to reflect a new name of the directory; ~~and~~

inserting the extracted tree with changed values of the keys into the <u>balanced</u> trimmed tree to form a final B-tree<u>; and</u>

<u>balancing the final B-tree</u>.

23-25 (Canceled)

26. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 22, wherein the step of changing the values of the keys of the extracted tree includes changing a prefix field of a root node of the extracted tree.